

Message Text

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SUBJECT: COMMITTEE FOR STATE AND PEOPLE'S CONTROL CRITICIZED
AND STRENGTHENED

REF: A. 76 SOFIA 1925

B. SOFIA A-3 DTD JAN 19, 1977

1. BULGARIAN PRESS JANUARY 17 CARRIED DECREE OF BCP
CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND GOB COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
WHICH, AFTER CRITICIZING COMMITTEE FOR STATE AND
PEOPLE'S CONTROL (CSPC) FOR PAST INADEQUACIES,
NEVERTHELESS STRENGTHENS ITS HAND AS OVERSEER OF
WORK OF BULGARIAN ADMINISTRATIVE AND ECONOMIC UNITS.

2. CSPC IS SUPPOSED TO "CONTROL, COORDINATE, AND
DIRECT THE WORK OF SPECIALIZED CONTROLLING ORGANS"
WHICH IS TO SAY, MINISTERS, HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS OF
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ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS, CHAIRMEN OF EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEES OF DISTRICT AND MUNICIPAL PEOPLE'S COUNCILS,
AND OTHER RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS THROUGHOUT THE
BULGARIAN STATE APPARATUS, ENFORCING PARTY AND STATE
DECISIONS AND STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE OF THOSE BODIES.

3. CRITICISM OF PAST PERFORMANCE IS QUITE POINTED:

"WORK OF CONTROLLING ORGANS IS NOT YET...IN
KEEPING WITH STRATEGIC TASK OF THE PARTY FOR
EFFECTIVENESS AND QUALITY." HIGH DEGREE OF FORMALISM
STILL MARKS CSPC'S APPROACH AND IT "IS STILL NOT USING
ITS DELEGATED RIGHTS TO CONTROL, CORRDINATE, AND DIRECT
THE WORK OF SPECIALIZED CONTROLLING ORGANS."
MORE GENERAL CRITICISM OF HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS IS
STATED: MINISTERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS "DO NOT PAY
ENOUGH ATTENTION TO CONTROL AND CHECK OF PERFORMANCE."

4. THE PRESCRIPTION, OTHER THAN DECREE ITSELF AND
THE WARNING IT REPRESENTS, IS CREATION OF AN
ADDITIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL UNDER CSPC WITH
PARTICIPATION OF HEADS OF SPECIALIZED ORGANS AND
SECTIONS FOR CONTROL. IN ADDITION, CSPC IS TO ANALYZE
CONTROL FUNCTION ACROSS COUNTRY AND INFORM BCP CENTRAL
COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. CHANGES
EMBODIED IN DECREE ARE EXPLAINED AS INCREASING THE
LEADING ROLE OF BCP "IN ALL SPHERES OF STATE, ECONOMIC,
AND SOCIAL LIFE OF COUNTRY...."

5. COMMENT: CRITICIZING AND STRENGTHENING HAND OF
"ENFORCER" CSPC IS YET ANOTHER SIGN--FOLLOWING LAST
SUMMER'S RESHUFFLE IN ECONOMIC MINISTRIES--THAT ALL
IS NOT GOING WELL IN FUNCTIONING OF STATE AND ECONOMY.
OTHER SIGNS OF PROBLEM WERE GIVEN IN STILL SHROUDED
JULY 1976 PLENUM IN WHICH ZHIVKOV STRONGLY CRITICIZED
ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE, IN PRESS CRITICISM CAMPAING
(REF A) WHICH CONTINUES TO SNAP AT HEELS OF LOW-TO-
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MIDDLE LEVEL MANAGEMENT, AND IN RECENT PUBLIC DISCUSSION
OF COUNTRY'S LABOR PROBLEM (REF B), A CLEARLY
IDENTIFIED ELEMENT OF WHICH IS LOW LABOR EFFECTIVENESS.
NATURE OF PROBLEM IS REVEALED IN PART IN DECREE'S
INSTRUCTION TO CSPC TO JUDGE OFFICALS' PERFORMANCE BY
WHETHER OR NOT THEY, INTER ALIA, "MANIFEST INTOLERANCE
TOWARD VIOLATIONS, BUREAUCRACY, INDIFFERENCE, AND
IRRESPONSIBILITY."

6. DECREE IMPLIES, WITHOUT DIRECTLY NAMING NAMES,
HARSH CRITICISM OF KRUSTYU TRICHKOV, CHAIRMAN OF
CONTROL COMMITTEE (SINCE 1971), CANDIDATE MEMBER OF
POLITBURO (SINCE 1966), DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
(SINCE 1976.) AT SAME TIME, IT PUTS MORE POWER IN HIS
HANDS. TRICHKOV APPEARED ON BULGARIAN TELEVISION
NIGHT OF JANUARY 17 TO EXPLAIN DECISION. ONE VIEWER
SAID TRICHKOV EXPLAINED, HE DID NOT APOLOGIZE.
THIS IS THE HIGHEST UP THE PYRAMID THAT RECENT
CRITICISM HAS GONE, PREVIOUS TARGETS HAVING BEEN UP TO LEVEL OF

DEPUTY MINISTERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS OF ECONOMIC MINISTRIES
AND ORGANIZATIONS.

7. IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT DURING THE SIX MONTHS (SO FAR)
IN WHICH GREAT ATTENTION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO SHORTCOMINGS
IN THE ECONOMY, LOW RATES OF WORKER AND PLANT PRODUCTIVITY,
ETC., THE FOCUS HAS BEEN ENTIRELY ON CRITICISM AND
TIGHTENING OF CONTROL PROCEDURES, WITHOUT MENTION OF
INCENTIVES TO EITHER MANAGERIAL OR WORKING STAFF FOR
GREATER EFFICIENCY. END COMMENT.
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